August 1, 2003

Ms. Marlene Dortch Secretary **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street SW, Room CY-B402 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Application of SBC, Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for Authorization To Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin, WC Docket No. 03-167

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to you to express my support for SBC's application to offer long distance service in Wisconsin. As the Executive Director of La Casa de Esperanza, an agency committed to providing opportunities for the Hispanic community to achieve full social and economic participation in society, it is important for them to have choices. SBC's ability to compete in the long distance market is of critical importance to the economic future of Wisconsin workers and their families.

When SBC receives approval to offer long distance, Wisconsin residents and businesses will enjoy the benefits of full telecommunications competition -- lower rates, more choices, increased innovation and investment, and the opportunity to have all their telecommunications services on one bill. I see evidence everyday of other phone companies offering packages that include local and long distance. SBC needs to be able to compete with these other companies.

I hope the Federal Communications Commission will take the steps necessary to allow SBC to offer this service in Wisconsin. The sooner SBC begins competing for long distance customers, the sooner Wisconsin residents can enjoy lower phone bills, a single telecommunications bill and the freedom to make more choices.

Sincerely.

**Executive Director** 

La Casa de Esperanza, Inc